

**NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE
ON THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION'S NOTICE OF
PROPOSED RULEMAKING ON STANDARD MARKET DESIGN**

On July 31, 2002, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Standard Market Design ("SMD NOPR"). Remedying Undue Discrimination through Open Access Transmission Service and Standard Electric Market Design, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FERC Docket No. RM01-12-000 (July 31, 2002). In the SMD NOPR, FERC proposes to (1) remedy undue discrimination in both interstate transmission services and industry practices, and (2) assure just and reasonable rates in the regional power markets. FERC also proposes to require all public utilities with open access transmission tariffs to file modification to their tariffs to reflect non-discriminatory, standardized transmission service and standardized wholesale electric market design.

The SMD NOPR proposes to establish a transmission congestion system and market settlement system to assure that the wholesale electricity market is managed efficiently. The SMD NOPR contains mechanisms to protect customers against the exercise of market power when conditions do not support a competitive market by market monitoring and mitigation as needed. The SMD NOPR also contains long-term planning and resource adequacy requirements to assure that infrastructure needs are met. The SMD NOPR promotes a Regional State Advisory Committee to address transmission expansion and siting issues.

FERC has requested comments on the SMD NOPR on or before January 10, 2003 on some subjects and November 15, 2002 on all other subjects. The Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") anticipates submitting comments to FERC and seeks to obtain the views of interested persons or entities on the SMD NOPR., particularly on the issues of market monitoring and mitigation, the allocation of costs of transmission expansion, and long-term planning and resource adequacy. Therefore, the Department will conduct a **Technical Conference** at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts **on November 21, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.** Any person or entity who desires to make any remarks should contact Sheila Renner, Esquire at (617) 305-3696 by close of business (5:00 p.m.) on November 15, 2002.

CC: Mary Cottrell